

BEFORE THE
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE DATA COLLECTION AND
ANALYTICAL WORK RELATING TO PERIODIC
REPORTING

Docket No. RM2011-3

UPDATE REGARDING POSTAL SERVICE
PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE COST STUDIES
(October 23, 2012)

At this docket's second technical conference, held on August 15, 2012, staff of the Postal Regulatory Commission requested that the United States Postal Service provide an update to the Commission as to the cost study areas that the Postal Service believes should be prioritized. This pleading responds to that request.

Docket No. RM2011-3 was initiated in November 2010 to "develop an inventory of longer-term data collection and analysis needs, comprehensively evaluate these needs, and devise a plan for meeting these needs, with input from mailers, the interested public, the Postal Service, and Commission staff."¹ Seven parties, including the Postal Service, filed comments in February 2011 setting forth each of their views regarding what cost study areas should be prioritized. A Commission order issued in November 2011 helpfully summarized the comments.²

The Postal Service's priorities from February 2011 remain unchanged. The Postal Service looks forward to the Commission issuing a final order setting forth its priorities for future research. The Postal Service will evaluate the Commission's priorities, compare them with the Postal Service's strategic goals and budget

¹ Order No. 589, Docket No. RM2011-3 (Nov. 18, 2010), at 3.

² Order No. 964, Docket No. RM2011-3 (Nov. 10, 2011).

constraints, and then inform the Commission of the studies the Postal Service expects to be able to pursue. As it pursues each study, the Postal Service will keep the Commission apprised of its progress.

The Postal Service further notes that its understanding from the second technical conference is that the Commission's first priority for cost study research is a study of city carrier street time. The Postal Service will begin a city carrier street time study, based on the Scoping Study filed earlier this year, in 2013, and will update the Commission on the study's progress periodically.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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